

Influenza Vaccine Recommendation
to the Public Health Council
from the
Public Health Council Committee
on Emergency Preparedness

June 14, 2006

Background:

The following recommendations, from the Public Health Council Committee on Emergency Preparedness, were presented to the Public Health Council at its meeting on February 10, 2006.

- 1. There needs to be a policy regarding distribution of vaccines so that organizations that care for priority groups and vulnerable populations have both priority access and receive sufficient supplies.**
- 2. This policy is especially important in emergency situations.**
- 3. Federal and state support is needed to accomplish this policy.**
- 4. The Committee is very concerned that another year and flu season has passed without a resolution to this important issue.**

Recommendation:

The Public Health Council referred this recommendation back to the Committee with the request that the Committee provide more specific direction regarding this matter. At its meeting on March 14, 2006, the Committee reached consensus regarding the following recommendations and presents to the Public Health Council the following Policy Statement for further consideration:

It is the policy of the State of Wisconsin to ensure that target populations have priority access to vaccines.

Each local and tribal health department, in collaboration with its health care providers (hospitals, clinics, etc.), is requested to set an annual threshold, which is to be reached by November 15th, for the vaccination of target populations.

Thresholds that are not met by November 15th are to be reported to the Wisconsin Division of Public Health, Bureau of Communicable Disease, Immunization Program.

The Governor is then to request that meetings be held between public and private sector holders of vaccines for the purpose of a voluntary redistribution of vaccines that can then be made available to providers that serve the target population not at threshold levels.

These meetings are to be facilitated by the Wisconsin Division of Public Health, Bureau of Communicable Disease, Immunization Program.

In preparation for these meetings, should they occur, the Wisconsin Division of Public Health, Bureau of Communicable Disease, Immunization Program shall facilitate a table-top exercise, prior to the Fall 2006 Influenza Season (repeatable as necessary), to determine the public and private sector participants that need to be involved in these meetings, once they are called for by the Governor, and also to determine the methodologies for the redistribution of the vaccine.